

REMARKS

Claim 20 has been withdrawn from further consideration as being drawn to a non-elected invention, election having been made by Applicants on December 27, 2005.

Claims 1 - 19 are now under consideration.

The Examiner now requires an election of species between:

- A. A method for forming a silicon based package, which comprises forming a first interconnection structure over the first surface of a silicon wafer, forming a protective overcoat layer over the interconnection structure; forming a temporary bond between the protective overcoat layer and a wafer holder (claims 1 - 13).
- B. A method for forming a silicon based package, which comprises forming a metal capture structure over the first surface of a silicon wafer, forming metal capture structures over the first surface of the wafer; and forming a temporary bond between the wafer and a wafer holder (claims 14 - 19).

In this regard, the Examiner states that the "species are independent or distinct because Claims 1 and 14 do not overlap in scope (MPEP § 806.04(f))." Although not fully understood, it appears that the Examiner is relying on the "forming a metal capture structure" step as the distinction between A and B.

Applicants do not agree with the Examiner that Claims 1 and 14 do not overlap in scope. Although Claim 1 does not recite "a metal capture structure", such structure is certainly contemplated within its scope. For example, dependent Claim 3 further defines the scope of Claim 1 by calling for "the step of forming metal capture structures over the

first surface". Similarly, Claims 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11 and 12 also call for "metal capture structures", which claims are all identified by the Examiner with Species A. In similar fashion, Claims 14 - 19, call for "metal capture structures", which claims are all identified by the Examiner with Species B. Accordingly, Applicants believe that Claims 1 and 14 do, indeed, overlap in scope and their limitations are clearly not mutually exclusive.

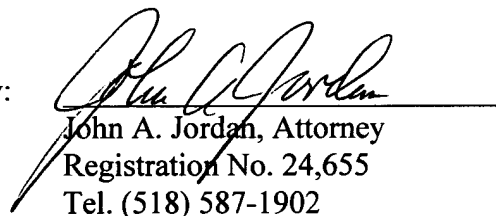
Although Applicants do not agree with the Examiner's position in regard to the Election of Species, Applicants do, however, hereby elect the so-called species A method to which Claim 1 has been identified by the Examiner. It appears that Claim 1 and dependent Claims 2, 8, 9 and 13 read on a method without "metal capture structures".

For the reasons given above this election is made with traverse.

Respectfully submitted,

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